27th March 1929]

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—"May I ask the hon. the Minister for Development what the period of contract of this short-term contract special European officer is?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"Five years."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—"How long more has he to serve?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"It is given in the answer, namely, until November 1930."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—"May I know why the salary of the specialist who has been trained in Cambridge is much less than the pay of this short-term officer?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"He is already in our service, Sir. He is on that pay."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—"May I know whether in view of the higher qualifications he has got now his salary is not going to be increased?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"That is a matter for further consideration, Sir."

Proposed reorganization of the Agricultural department.

* 1921 *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are proposals to reorganize the Agricultural department;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the European Junior Deputy Director was put on special duty to draft a scheme for reorganization of the department in preference to the senior officers, and whether any scheme has been submitted to Government in his name;

(*c*) what are his qualifications for such special work; and

(*d*) whether it is a fact that a major portion of his short service was spent in planting districts and that his experience of the Agricultural department is less than that of the juniormost officer in the Indian Agricultural Service?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) "No". Mr. Munro was put on special duty not to draft any scheme of reorganization but to render such assistance to the Director of Agriculture in his work as would enable him to have the necessary time to draft a comprehensive programme of work and development for the department.

(*c*) & (*d*) A more senior officer better experienced in district work is more useful in the district than he would be in a purely ministerial capacity, the duties of which were very adequately performed by the officer in question.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—"May I know, Sir, what is the salary that Mr. Munro gets now in his new position?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"There is no new position for him at all, Sir."